## Supervisor Romaine, Legislator Krupski and Councilman Panico Preserve Toppings Farm

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**Farmingville, NY -** Tuesday, May 6, 2014 the Town of Brookhaven and County of Suffolk closed on the 8.75 acre property known as Toppings Farm on the Manorville/Eastport border. The local area possesses some of the last naturally preserved land in the Town of Brookhaven. Councilman Panico is proud to announce this latest development in the ongoing effort to preserve the rural characteristics of our local community for future generations.

"As a County Legislator, I was happy to sponsor the legislation to spearhead the acquisition process for Toppings Farm. Now as Town Supervisor, I'm pleased to be working again with Councilman Panico and Legislator Krupski to bring this acquisition to fruition," said Supervisor Romaine. "The CR51 Land Use Plan calls for the preservation of this entire area, and this acquisition further promotes the rural and bucolic character of the southeastern part of the Town, one of the most scenic routes in Suffolk County."

Toppings Farm, located at Moriches Riverhead Road in Eastport, is an 8.75 wooded tract on the northwest side of Riverhead Road between Eastport Manor Road and Route 111, just after the horse farm. It is in the Pine Barrens Compatible Growth Area. This site was listed in the CR 51 Land Use Plan as the second most important woodland open space acquisition (The Oaks and adjacent sites were first). Toppings Path goes under CR 111 and extends into undeveloped areas of the Pine Barrens.

"Since being elected I have made the preservation of land and our environment a priority," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "A couple of years ago I introduced a bill to partner with the County and former Legislator and current Supervisor Romaine. That partnership endured and was seen through by current Legislator Krupski for which we are all thankful."

On February 26, 2012 Councilman Panico sponsored and passed a resolution authorizing the shared acquisition by the Town of Brookhaven, and County of Suffolk, of the Toppings Farm property located on the western side of County Road 51, immediately across the street from the northern entrance of Encore Atlantic Shores. This acquisition will compliment prior purchases of open space and farmland, in furtherance of our ongoing effort to preserve the rustic and rural characteristics of the corridor.

## Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor

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